

I am appalled that Sinclair Broadcasting company could announce a decision to demand that all their stations show a deliberately one-sided and inflammatory program like "Stolen Honor" just days before the election and not have their license suspended almost instantly. Such partisan advocacy at the large corporate level makes a travesty of local control particularly and of the integrity of the licensing procedure in general.

Sinclair has access to the public airwaves, by application and free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. A functioning equal time provision is absolutely critical to any version of such service, but I see no evidence of any equal time intention in Sinclair's plans. Moreover, I don't see how the leadership, at some remote corporate headquarters, could possibly (let alone responsibly) presume to dictate the "public interest" in dozens of communities scattered through several states.

Strongarm tactics like these are one of the key reasons for first stopping and then reversing the trend toward media consolidation. Media ownership and broadcast privileges should come only with the strictest public responsibility--and it should never be absentee.

Thank you.